

19990517.ba v02_n548.bam.990517

>From ???@??? Tue May 18 09:14:45 1999
Message-Id: <199905171758.MAA18163@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 12:58:14 CDT
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 2548

BOATANCHORS Digest 2548

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by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 5) Re: T4XB and R4B Question
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- 14) Never ending quest for more radio debris nets Telefunken(?) electrostatic
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by Scott Robinson <spr@earthlink.net>

- 18) Re: GB> Why hamfests are "dying"
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
19) Re: GB> Why hamfests are "dying"
by "John K9UWA" <k9uwa@cris.com>

Message-Id: <199905170008.RAA02901@mail-gw2.pacbell.net>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: FS: Eico VTVM
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 16:27:06 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Model 233 in MINT condition. 9.99 on a scale of ten. Original owner never took it out of the box. Complete with manual. \$40 plus shipping takes it.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-Id: <199905170008.RAA02909@mail-gw2.pacbell.net>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: More HP quality flubs
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 17:09:00 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

When a company decides to go cheap it doesn't always figure out what's in store for its product quality, or it doesn't care because things have to meet cost requirements and the customer can pay later to get it fixed. Such is the case with the transistor sockets in the 8708A frequency synchronizer. There are four TO-3 type transistors in the 8708A belonging to the power supply regulator circuits. They are mounted on hunks of sheet metal for heat sinking utilizing transistor sockets of the cheapest grade obtainable. These sockets ordinarily give good service if properly installed. Some semi-competent manufacturing engineer decided to replace the sheet metal transistor mounting screws that come with the sockets with stainless steel screws, stainless being de rigour at HP. The dumb kauph didn't bother to see if the screws did the job properly as he probably didn't know that not all screws are equal. The screws used have a rather precipitous taper at the tips which cause the tightening torque to increase suddenly before the screw bears heavily on the transistor case to make a reliable contact. Of course we all know you don't need good contacts on a new piece of gear if it will just go peacefully out the door (with extra hardware and wire clippings rattling around inside to boot). I've run into

these kinds of problems many times before with respect to cheap transistor sockets. Taking a first look I could see some of the screws weren't fully torqued down. I went to work with a screwdriver and observed that it took anywhere from 1/4 to 3/4 turns to get the screws where they should be. Looking further I could see the screws were also too short, the tapered tip portion not fully penetrating the socket collector terminal plate. A little further investigation was in order. How tight are these screws really now? A slight counter-clockwise turn revealed that the steep torque gradient was the reason the screws couldn't be depended on to remain tight.

Out came the sheet metal screws and in went 6-32 machine screws (stainless, of course) with more than 1/8 inch of excess length. The torqueing gradient was now what it should be. In addition I installed those screws with internal tooth shake-proof washers under their heads. I did it the way it should have been done in quality equipment.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net 3/4

From: "David Newkirk" <dpnewkirk@home.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Harvey UHX-10 Transmitter, Model 39
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 20:35:58 -0400
Message-ID: <000101be9ffd\$3c65cf40\$11670518@cc328679-a.vron1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Richard Brunner wrote:

> Subject: Harvey UHX-10 Transmitter, Model 39
>
> Does anyone have a clue where I might find an instruction book /
> schematic?

>From my references/citations file at

<http://members.home.net/dpnewkirk/er/reference/citation.htm>

Willard S. Wilson, "A 28-Mc. Mobile Installation," QST, June 1937, pages 48-49, 80. Describes and schematizes the transmitter sold as the Harvey UHX-10 (6L6 oscillator-6L6 amplifier, 6N7-6N7 modulator).

73,

Dave Newkirk, W9VES
dpnewkirk@home.com

Message-Id: <199905170036.RAA06158@mail-gw2.pacbell.net>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Fw: Eico VTVM.....correction
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 17:32:38 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>
> Model 233 in MINT condition. 9.99 on a scale of ten. Original owner
never
> took it out of the box. Complete with manual. \$40 plus shipping takes
it.
>

Sorry for the error, it's a model 232.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-Id: <199905170019.UAA27912@flash.naxs.net>
From: "Barry L. Ornitz" <ornitz@tricon.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: T4XB and R4B Question
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 21:18:10 -0400

George, KB5WWO, asked about the difference in transmit and receive frequency in the Drake twins when operating transceive mode. This is a result of having different oscillator/mixer chains in the pair. Some rigs, like some of the Heath rigs, brought out the carrier oscillator frequency to eliminate much of this problem, but most transceivers have this problem to some extent.

In the transmitter, the T-4x, there is a trimmer capacitor that controls the 5.645 MHz carrier oscillator frequency. You will need to perform this adjustment first. Typically you would mis-adjust the carrier balance control to give some signal to work with. Looking at the RF output, adjust the trimmer while switching between upper and lower sidebands. The correct position is the one that gives equal power output - which places the carrier symmetrically between the two filter passbands. Then readjust the carrier balance control to null the carrier.

In the receiver, the R-4 (-,A,B), there is a similar trimmer that controls the 5.595 MHz frequency which mixes with the 5.645 MHz crystal filter frequency to produce the 50 kHz IF. Do NOT follow the instruction manual for the receiver when adjusting this trimmer. Instead follow the

instructions given in the transmitter manual. This is to transmit into a dummy load in the tune position with the receiver function switch set to on, the transceiver switch set to RCVR, and the passband selector set to the middle of the 4.8 kHz position. Note the tone heard. Switch the transmitter sideband switch back and forth. Adjust the trimmer on the _receiver_ until no difference in pitch is heard when switching sidebands on the transmitter.

I found a much easier way of doing this by using one of the internal "birdies". With both the transmitter and receiver on 80 meters, turn the Preselector on the receiver above the band until a second noise peak occurs. My memory, often faulty, says this will be slightly below the 40 meter position. Do the same on the transmitter using the RF Tune control. Then turn the transmitter to SPOT. You should hear a warble note like you normally hear when spotting the transmitter. Adjust the receiver trimmer for the slowest warble.

Until I replaced the 5.595 Mhz crystal in my receiver, I had to do the transceive alignment fairly often. Rather than pull the covers each time, I too a coathanger wire and ground the end down to a screwdriver shape and used this through the top cover to adjust the receiver trimmer. After the crystal was replaced, I had to do this adjust just once or twice a year. The crystal was evidently drifting.

73, Barry L. Ornitz WA4VZQ ornitz@tricon.net

Message-Id: <3.0.5.32.19990515213206.00845c50@mail1.coastalnet.com>

Date: Sat, 15 May 1999 21:32:06 -0400

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: Al Parker <anchor@coastalnet.com>

Subject: Re: T4XB and R4B Question

Cc: boatanchors@listserv.tempe.gov

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

in the

>Transceive mode either using the tx VFO ,or the rec VFO it does not tx

>and rec on the same freq.

>

Barry just wrote his methods for this, the Drake manual tells you their method to adjust the "tweet". I think it's in the T4X- manual, my R4B manual was just close at hand, & didn't find it in there, but I've done it recently.

73,

Al, W8UT

New Bern, NC
Boat Anchors appreciated here
anchor@coastalnet.com

Message-ID: <373F7D90.327@bellsouth.net>
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 21:23:37 -0500
From: George T Folse III <kb5www@bellsouth.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: Boatanchors Mailing List <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: T4XB and R4B Question
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks goes to Barry and Al and others for the help. I will give it a try and let you know how it turns out.

George

Message-Id: <3.0.5.32.19990516231635.007f2bd0@proaxis.com>
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 23:16:35 -0700
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Hue Miller <kargokult@proaxis.com>
Subject: ? source for 10-meter xtals ?
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

hello all,

say, any recommends on source for surplus or affordable xtals that

mutiply 2x or 3x up to 29.00 MHz, or maybe up to 29.20 at most?

this would mean quartzes around 14.5+ or 9.667+ MHz.

i would like to put a couple of olde Forest Service boxes on the air.

tnx, hue ka7lxy

Message-Id: <3.0.5.16.19990517064505.34779240@pop.atl.mindspring.com>
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 06:45:05 -0400
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Greg Carter <kx4r@atl.mindspring.com>
Subject: FS: Hallicrafters/Johnson gear

Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Good morning All !
I find myself in need of reducing some of my
BA inventory to make room for new stuff that
I've just acquired. So I offer the following for sale.
Would prefer pick-up but will ship at your expense
from zip 30178.

1. Johnson Ranger I - cabinet fair, front panel good
(no scratches) except for an added knob between
AUX Coupling and Bandswitch. No idea of it's function.
I bought this as a parts unit, and have never had it out
of it's cabinet. May be missing some tubes.
\$100
2. Johnson Challenger - exc front panel and very nicely
repainted cabinet. Beautiful wiring job inside (may be
factory wired) but doesn't work and I haven't checked it
out. Tubes light and HV is present....that's as far as I got.
\$65
3. Hallicrafters SX-101 - this is the original version that covers
160 mtrs. Very good front panel, cabinet has usual scratches.
Works very well on all bands except 160. Have not delved into
this one either
\$125
4. Johnson Signal Sentry #250-25 - excellent condition, hard to find
accessory that performs the following functions: monitors CW signal,
Monitors Phone-checks audio quality, "On the Air " indicator, Mutes
Receiver for "Break In"
\$40

If you have any further questions, please send private e-mail and I'll
answer to the best of my ability.

Thanks and 73 for now !
Greg KX4R
kx4r@mindspring.com
Taylorsville, GA 30178

Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 09:03:12 -0400
From: "ROBERT W. DOWNS" <RWDowns_WA5CAB@compuserve.com>
Subject: Unknown Meter
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Message-ID: <199905170903_MC2-75F8-95A2@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Group,

I've posted a picture on my web site of a meter that I have that I can't identify. It is about 4" by 4.5" and is probably from a civilian multimeter as there is no manufacturer ID or military IS number on the dial. If anyone recognizes it, I would appreciate the info. If anyone needs it, and it doesn't turn out to go to anything that I have, then it is available.

<http://www.ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/rwdownloads_wa5cab/p5170020.htm>

Also, if this link doesn't work as written, let me know. I'm just getting started at this.

73,
Robert Downs
WA5CAB
Houston

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 08:27:36 -0500
Subject: Thread back to BA seminar?
Message-ID: <19990517.082738.-14259.0.MNHopkins@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
From: mnhopkins@juno.com

Before Jackatak gets back from Dayton, might we self police out the Hamfest laments and veer back to the "Seminar" atmosphere?

Veterans of college seminars know they are classes in which the participants are each to contribute something. Scholarship is stressed in the form of bibliography in the form, "Terman said in "Radio Engineering, 2d Ed." New York, McGraw-Hill, 1937, that triodes need a lot of drive."

We need not be that formal, of course, but those cites are the mark of

a seminar class presentation.

Of course Boatanchors is already the most scholarly of mailers. For an example of the other type in sharp relief, tune in the noted white noise generator QRP-L from which I was recently banned for various infractions.

Over there the "me too" and "its sold" posts outnumber the serious scholarship by a quantum to one.

But Boatanchors is still the leader in this sort of service and the first one I decided to keep when I recently culled my e-mail services.

de ab5L, michael in dallas, MNHopkins@JUNO.com
Student of Tecraft, ICM and Six Meters' Golden age: 1957-58
Box 226841, Dallas, TX 75222
Banned for life from QRP-L mailer for various truths.

Message-ID: <37402178.BEF08382@atd.ucar.edu>
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 08:02:32 -0600
From: Chip Owens <owens@atd.ucar.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Electrolytic Capacitor Re-builder?
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,

I have some electrolytics out of a HP606A that I'd like to get re-built. Can someone tell me who it is that does this work? I know there is a guy doing this but don't know who.

Thanks!, Chip

--
Chip Owens (owens@atd.ucar.edu)

Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 09:32:13 -0500 (EST)
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
cc: Sandy Blaize <ebjr@worldnet.att.net>,
Glowbugs Reflector <glowbugs@piobaire.mines.uidaho.edu>,
BA Reflector 2 <boatanchors@listserv.temp.gov>,
BA Reflector <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: GB> Why hamfests are "dying"
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.9905170846390.16062-100000@indy1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi!

I just have to comment here. You see, all is not lost.

There are still folks who practice wet-plate photography, play old (some *really* old and quite odd) classical & folk and you-name-it music on the old (and even more odd--ever hear a "serpent?" Ever hear bagpipers from a few feet away?) instruments, shoot flintlocks, and fly radial-engined biplanes. For that matter, there are still brave and skilled folks who build their own airplanes, from scratch or from kits--sometimes with the latest high-tech tricks and sometimes from spruce and cloth and baling wire. Steam engines of all sizes are alive and well--from button-cute working models to honkin' big locomotives that could still haul freight and off into wild gadgets of arcane design. (Go talk to steam-loco enthusiasts, the hands-on ones; they *are* the few and the proud, and they're keeping the art alive!)

...And there are still hams who homebrew; some with tubes, others with solid-state parts; some from kits and some from a blank sheet of paper. *Bless* NorCal--they may do the herd kit-of-the-month thing but by golly, they've got people *building* stuff and wanting more--and some will get interested enough to try their own notions.

The thing is, none of these are really mass-market enterprises. People do 'em because they *want* to (or, as I did in hamming years ago and to some extent even now, because store-bought gear cost too much).

Radio homebrewing is, to some degree, reliant upon mass-produced widgets; in BAing, the one great you-can't-build-'em is tubes (and that's why we ought not dish the tube audiophiles too much--'twas them saved the 300B from oblivion, not us, and come a few more decades, that may be the only tube you can find suited to a 1929 self-excited rig). As the years go by, the scrounging gets more difficult; prices rise and fall, depending on how the mass-market feels. Sheesh, 25-odd years ago when I was first licensed and looking for "BA" gear, you could hardly find it at the local hamfests--not because it was scarce but because it was not worth enough to haul to the 'fest! (Bearing in mind that at that time, the antique-radio folks were after 1920s battery sets, a mostly- or all-tube Heathkit counted as "new gear," and Command sets were still thought common and casually hacked into whatever form suited the owner. But a black-crackle HRO? A prewar Harvey? Fergit it--moldering in a basement!)

Now I go to a 'fest, and there's tons of good parts. Yep, the HT-heads and the kilowatt 'phone folks walk right by 'em, but there's always a few of us digging in the boxes under the tables, or haggling for a box of Bug plug-in coils, or--and give 'em credit!--buying another dollar bag bulging with 2N2222s.

Homebrewing will be around--sheesh, moonshine's still around and brewing your own wine is popular enough that whole stores and mail-order outfits are dedicated to them, and radio's a heap easier than that (less

of a "morning after," too)! Will there be as much of it as in the days of yore, when Joe and Jane Ham started out with a HB xmtr and maybe a regen set, and later moved up to a commercial receiver and a bigger HB rig? Probably not; but that doesn't mean it will go away!

People are social animals and hamfests are social events--not just flea markets, but forums, meetings, dinners, and so on. The fleas may shrink but I don't think we'll see 'em go away any time soon. Put a bunch of people together and some bright lad will start sellin' stuff.

As for nitwits, the human race has always had 'em. Goes with the breed. Ignore them! One more happy HTer is--oh, wash my mouth!--one less person after the 500pF variable condenser you're stalking.

Hey, I *liked* Dayton and my only regret was being too sick to make a real day of it. I hauled as much cash as I could scrape up, and would've spent it all on fun gadgets if I could have. ...But I was selective where I went and who I talked to: "filtering" is a concept that can be more widely applied than just inside radio gear!

But if we want this stuff, we have to make it happen. Why'n the heck to I bother reprinting old radio booklets, usually at a small loss and with some risk over copyrights? Not for the fame and certainly not for the money! But if I can get a clean, nice copy of a 1930s ham pamphlet into someone's hands, filled with stuff they might want to build, that's one more person who'll keep the old skills going. Those reprints are *worthless* to a radio-bibliophile; they're not really aimed at the fellow who's got a full run of ARRL HBs in mint condition. They're meant to go live on a workbench, and get dog-eared and tattered and solder-splashed!

Without the skills, a collection of old gear is just a dead museum. 'Swhy I call myself an "appreciator" and not a collector, and it's why my accumulation of keys *works* for a living.

73,
--Bobbi

(You think these artifacts can't lose meaning? Archealogists had for *years* been finding odd little cylindrical gadhets with some funy holes drilled in them in the tombs of women in the Eastern Med; nobody knew what they wers--kind of looked like a whistle but they didn't make any noise. It wasn't until one of them, in a remote village, saw an old lady unlocking a door by threading such a device on the latchstring and working it in to release the bolt that the purpose was revealed to science. What's a code key going to mean in a couple hundred years if no one knows how to use it?)

KB9GKX "RJ" rbarmore@indy.net Roberta J. (Bobbi) Barmore
FISTS #3388 * G-QRP #10001 * ARRL * RSGB * WIA
Appreciator Of Vacuum-Tube Ham Gear and Vintage Keys

Message-Id: <199905171451.KAA19356@hat-trick.atl.org>

From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: Never ending quest for more radio debris nets Telefunken(?) electrostatic microphone.

Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 22:52:19 +0100

Here on the desk sits a Telefunken(?) electrostatic microphone.
It's sort of attractive in that it resembles an oversized beer can.

Older electronics books and the net have not revealed much info about these BA (it's big, heavy, and uses a tube) microphones. I've had almost no exposure to broadcast or commercial recording hardware. Is there anyone on the list who has worked with them?

The model in question is Ela MZ 027/1 but general info like response tube characteristics, mechanical details, dealing with microphonics, etc are all bugging me.

-bob
wb4mnf
Atlanta
404-888-0389

Message-Id: <199905171615.LAA16121@jackatak.theporch.com>

From: listown@jackatak.theporch.com (Mail List Owner)

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: ADMINISTTRIVIA: Changing Email Addresses

Date: Mon, 17 May 99 11:15:01 CDT

Gang-

This periodic post is intended to help subscribers whose email address has changed, preventing posting or receipt of the list.

If you change ISP (InterNet Service Provider), simply send me an email advising the change, and I will do my best to implement the change quickly.

For those unfortunates, whose ISP has made a change without advising their customers of the potential impact of that change on subscribers to email lists like the boatanchors, where one must be a subscriber to post to the list, try to follow along...

Under some circumstances, the changes to your email address are "transparent" to you, but prevent posting. I get error notification

for these kinds of problems, and I try to work them out. However, I may miss one, and on this end, the process is anything BUT automatic.

You have a bigger stick than I do. You and your ISP have the primary responsibility to repair the problems caused by the change at the ISP. I have zero leverage with your ISP, and you have great leverage.

Most ISP maintain a customer service department to help with problems like these. This should be your first line of support for email problems. I am happy to assist and consult, but try to understand that when your ISP makes a change to their email handler, and that change prevents you from posting to the boatanchors list, I can help, but resolving this problem is your responsibility, working with your ISP. I am but a volunteer, contributing my time to administer the list.

Thank you for your attention.

--

73

Jack, W4KH/Mobile - - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Archiver/Owner - - -
listown@jackatak.theporch.com - "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose"

"Il n'y a que les idiots qui ne changent jamais d'idee"

Mon May 17 11:15:00 CDT 1999

Message-ID: <374042BB.4E2DB74A@erols.com>
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 12:24:27 -0400
From: Dave Jordan <wa3gin@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Junk Box Check
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hmmm,

Not sure about this...Heath Kit stuff is pretty old but not sure if it falls under
boatanchors guidelines....I'm fixing an elderly hams 13 volt power supply
he needs a new series regulation transistor Motorola 417-90 213. To me this transistor is as ancient as a 6146B. If anyone has one and is willing to
part with it please let me know direct.

thanks,

dave
WA3GIN

Message-ID: <37404474.290FF1CD@earthlink.net>
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 09:31:48 -0700
From: Scott Robinson <spr@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Electrolytic Capacitor Re-builder?
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

F0lks,

Frontier Electronics used to do this, but they quit and how a fellow in St. Louis named William P. Turner is offering this service. I'll try to find his email tonight and post it. I have not done business with him but have read his postings onf the rec.antiques.radio+phono newsgroup adn I'd say he's crusty but knowledgeable.

Regards,

Scott Robinson
spr@earthlink.net

Junque is GOOD for you!

Chip Owens wrote:

>
> Hi Gang,
> I have some electrolytics out of a HP606A that I'd like to get
> re-built. Can someone tell me who it is that does this work? I know
> there is a guy doing this but don't know who.
>
> Thanks!, Chip
>
> --
> Chip Owens (owens@atd.ucar.edu)

--

Message-Id: <199905171739.KAA04775@mta2.snfc21.pbi.net>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: "Sandy Blaize" <ebjr@worldnet.att.net>,
"Glowbugs Reflector" <glowbugs@piobaire.mines.uidaho.edu>,
"BA Reflector 2" <boatanchors@listserv.temp.gov>,
"BA Reflector" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: GB> Why hamfests are "dying"
Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 10:33:53 -0700
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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anchorists;

Hamfests may or may not be "dying". It could be that we don't have the correct clinical diagnosis yet but I'll make some predictions. I agree with Bobbi, folks still like to get out and meet each other and appreciate the symbols of their common interests. That won't change. What is changing is the supply of materials and sources for collectable equipment. In time all of the actics and basements will be cleared of old radios. Stocks of vintage parts will eventually be exhausted. Will that cause the hobby to die? My guess is that, like micro brewers, there will be a development and proliferation of manufacturers of electronic components that supply the hobby and educational markets. Yes, new vacuum tube factories will come into being! New tubes will come into existence that are designed for efficient, environmentally friendly small scale production that are economical for the ordinary onezie buyer. Why? Because in this world of excess production capacity industry will have to be defused and become overall less efficient to meet the social needs of the population glut. Computers are already becoming ho-hum for many of us. Humans have opposing digits for a reason! We like to do things with our hands instead of just punching keys (or conversing with androids). There is nothing more identifiable with our individuality than a hand crafted work. Hobby stores will return. Industry will become oriented towards maintaining a more equitable distribution of commerce, in essence a return to former times. I believe we are seeing signs of it already in spite of the growth of mega corporations, QRP gear manufacturers being a shining example as Bobbi points out. So let's not get discouraged, let's continue to evolve our hobby and be makers of change for the good.

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Message-Id: <199905171757.NAA22041@marconi.concentric.net>
From: "John K9UWA" <k9uwa@cris.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
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> but there's always a few
> of us digging in the boxes under the tables, or haggling for a box of Bug
> plug-in coils, or--and give 'em credit!--buying another dollar bag bulging
> with 2N2222s.

Right Bobbi!!

I sure made a bunch of guys happy with all the parts boxes this weekend....when they picked up a few parts and asked how much....you tell them a buck or whatever and they immediately dive back into the boxes again and come up with a much larger handfull and start asking for a box or a bag to put the stuff in.....you know you made someone really happy!! An they are Fixing or Building something!
John K9UWA

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End of BOATANCHORS Digest 2548
